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Supreme Court Rejects Cuban Bid For Vessel

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court rejected Monday an appeal by which the government of Cuba seeks return of a rusting freighter, "The City of Havana," now at "dead ship" anchorage in Baltimore harbor.

Action by the high tribunal was asked by Dr. Karel Duda, Czechoslovakian ambassador. His country has represented Cuban interests in this country since U.S.-Cuban relations were broken in 1961.

"The City of Havana" was purchased by a Cuban agency in 1958 in Canada. A second concern took the vessel to Baltimore for refitting. The two concerns then got into litigation over their agreement and the U.S. marshal seized the ship pending outcome of the suit. In 1960 Cuba sought release of the vessel.

Chief Judge Roszel C. Thomsen of the federal district court in Baltimore ruled against Cuba, holding it had waived its sovereign immunity claim. Later the Fourth U.S. Circuit Court affirmed Thomsen.